

Message Text

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SUBJECT: ANGOLA: KAUNDA SEEKS APPOINTMENT FOR CHONA WITH SECRETARY

1. IN TELECON WITH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER MARK CHONA LATE EVENING JAN 21, HE TOLD ME KAUNDA WANTS HIM TO SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY FOR "QUIET REASSESSMENT" OF ANGOLA SITUATION AS RESULT OF SECRETARY'S MOSCOW TALKS. CHONA DOUBTED SECRETARY'S TIGHT SCHEDULE INCLUDING BRUSSELS AND MADRID ENROUTE BACK TO WASHINGTON WOULD PERMIT MEETING IN EUROPE, THUS HE REQUESTING MEETING IN WASHINGTON. MAIN PURPOSES WOULD BE TO WORK OUT, AS CHONA EXPLAINED, CONCRETE LINES OF ACTION FOR NEW DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE IN COOPERATION WITH US, OTHER WESTERN POWERS, AND 22 AFRICAN STATES WHO HELD THE LINE AGAINST MPLA RECOGNITION AT OAU SUMMIT IN ADDIS.

2. CHONA TOLD ME HE INFORMED THAT NIGERIANS HAD BEEN EXCEEDINGLY ACTIVE AND EFFECTIVE IN LOBBYING WITH MEMBERS OF US CONGRESS, ESPECIALLY BLACK CAUCUS AND PARTICULARLY CONGRESSMAN DIGGS, BUT ALSO WITH SENATOR CLARK AND OTHER LIKE-MINDED SENATORS. KAUNDA WANTS TO DISPATCH CHONA TO WASHINGTON FOR DUAL PURPOSE: (A) AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE SECRETARY AND (B) ZAMBIAN DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE IN US TO OFFSET NEGATIVE INFLUENCE OF NIGERIAN INITIATIVE ON AMERICAN CONGRESS AND PUBLIC. CHONA SAID HE WOULD

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ALSO HOPE TO WORK IN NEW YORK THROUGH UN REPS OF AFRICAN

MODERATE STATES. HE ALSO SAID IT IMPORTANT THAT ZAMBIA'S AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON BE BETTER BRIEFED TO PLAY HIS ROLE BOTH IN WASHINGTON DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND IN MANY LATIN AMERICAN CAPITALS WHERE HE ACCREDITED.

3. RECOMMENDATION: THAT THE SECRETARY MEET WITH CHONA IN WASHINGTON IN PROPOSED TIME FRAME OF JAN 29 - FEB 5 OR OTHER TIME AND PPECE WHICH MAY BE MORE CONVENIENT TO SECRETARY.

4. BELIEVE FOLLOWING REASONS SUPPORT ZAMBIAN REQUEST:

(A) MEETING WITH SECRETARY WOULD BE TIMELY EXTENSION OF DIRECT US-ZAMBIAN DIALOGUE ON ANGOLA BEGUN IN WASHINGTON WITH PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY LAST APRIL, REVIVED I PARIS DURING CIEC MEETING, AND LOGICAL NOW FOLLOWING SECRETARY'S MOSCOW MEETING. KAUNDA CONVINCED THAT WITH FAILURE OF OAU SUMMIT, POWER OF DECISION ON ANGOLA RESTS WITH RUSSIA AND US. (B) KAUNDA ALSO GIVES IMPRESSION OF NEEDING CONTINUING REASSURANCE OF US "UNDIMINISHED DETERMINATION" TO CONTINUE TO RESIST SOVIET ATTEMPT TO IMPLANT ITSELF IN ANGOLA, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF DEVASTATING NEWS OF SOUTH AFRICAN WITHDRAWAL (WHICH KAUNDA RESISTED) AND EFFECT THIS UNDOUBTEDLY WILL HAVE ON ALREADY FRAGILE MILITARY BALANCE AND POLITICAL FUTURE OF ANGOLA; ALSO IF BREACH LEFT BY SAG WITHDRAWAL NOT FILLED BY FIRENDS OF ANGOLA AND AFRICA. (C) KAUNDA WANTS TO KNOW HOW OUR RESISTANCE WILL BE CARRIED OUT AND WHAT USEFUL ROLE ZAMBIA CAN PLAY IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH US, OTHER WESTERN POWERS, AND AFRICAN MODERATES IN LIGHT OF SECRETARY'S DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW AND APPARENTLY INTRANSIGENT POSITION OF AMERICAN CONGRESS AND PUBLIC. (D) IN ORGANIZING ITSELF FOR ITS OWN DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE BEGINNING IN U.S. ZAMBIANS BELIEVE THEY MAY BE BEST GUIDED BY WASHINGTON'S ADVICE ON APPROACHES MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED. IN THIS VIEW EMBASSY LUSAKA FULLY CONCURS.

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